

GENOA CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD
Special Meeting
November 5, 2025

MINUTES

Call to Order

Supervisor Spicher called the special meeting of the Genoa Charter Township Board to order at 6:30 pm at the Township Hall.

Invocation

Supervisor Spicher led the invocation for the Board and the members of the public.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call

The following members were present constituting a quorum for the transaction of business: Kevin Spicher, Candie Hovarter, Robin Hunt, Bill Reiber, Rick Soucy, and Todd Walker.

Also present was Township Manager Kelly VanMarter, Township Attorney Joe Seward, and 14 people in the audience.

Call to the Public

The call to the public was opened at 6:31 pm.

Mr. Jim Carpenter of 4715 Stillmeadow stated when you are watching the meeting online, you cannot see the screen. He cannot delete the messages on the MyGenoa App. He is concerned that the township hall is an environment conducive to get work done. He would like to see an internal investigation to determine what is true and what actions are being taken and then let the public know. He asked to have the board explain the process of hiring a new clerk.

Ms. Debbie McCormick of 2650 Springhill Drive stated she was on the board for four years and recommends that choosing a new clerk should be done in closed session. She is applying for the clerk's job. She recommended the board take the time and interview each person and then make the decision.

Ms. Karen Wilbanks of 2914 Russell Drive asked how many people applied for the clerk's position and who is the final authority on when to bring it to vote.

Mr. Tim Quinn of 4042 Brookstone Court stated that if what he said at Monday's meeting is not accurate, he apologizes. Many people are bothered by the situation and do not know the truth.

Ms. Colleen Quinn of 4042 Brookstone Court supported what Jim, Debbie and Tim said. The township needs a good clerk and deputy clerk.

The call to the public was closed at 6:41 pm.

Approval of Regular Agenda:

Moved by Hunt, supported by Soucy, to approve the Regular Agenda as presented. **The motion carried unanimously.**

1. Consideration of an appointment to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of the Township Clerk

Mr. Seward provided the steps that have been taken after the clerk submitted her resignation. He also provided the laws that must be followed and qualifications that are needed to appoint a new clerk. The clerk that is appointed will serve until the next election in August. That clerk will fill the remaining term of the previous clerk. The discussion and vote must be in a public meeting.

Supervisor Spicher stated that five resumes have been received and none of the applicants have previously been a clerk and two have worked elections but have not run one. There are many opportunities for training. The board received the resumes yesterday. He added that the deputy clerk position was posted when she resigned. The new clerk will choose the deputy clerk.

Ms. Hunt stated there are a lot of responsibilities of the clerk and not just running an election. When the clerk is appointed by motion, the record has to be that whoever is appointed clerk will be added to all bank accounts. Mr. Seward stated the first thing the new clerk must do is take an oath and post a bond.

Mr. Reiber stated resumes do not list all experiences a candidate has. He spoke to four of the applicants and they were happy to have the opportunity and answered his questions and provided their qualifications.

Ms. Hunt reviewed all of the resumes and believes that Mr. Soucy is the most qualified.

Moved by Hunt, supported by Walker, to appoint Rick Soucy as Township Clerk and upon his appointment, he shall be added to all township bank accounts.

Ms. Hunt's motion originally used the word "nominate"; however, prior to the vote, Ms. Hunt asked for clarification from the board and "nominate" was changed to "appoint". Also, Mr. Reiber asked whether other nominations were permitted and Supervisor Spicher stated "no, depending on the outcome of the vote, there may be no other nominations".

The motion carried with a roll call vote (Hunt - yes; Walker - yes; Soucy - yes; Spicher - yes; Reiber - no; Hovarter - no).

Mr. Seward stated that Mr. Soucy can no longer serve on the township board. The township has 45 days to appoint a new trustee.

The board discussed the process of advertising and appointing a new trustee and when that person would need to run for the position.

Board Comments

Ms. Hovarter stated she does not understand what happened with Janene. It is troubling what was going on. She will run against Mr. Soucy for clerk in the primary election.

Adjournment

Moved by Hunt, supported by Walker, to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 pm. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Patty Thomas
Recording Secretary

Approved: Rick Soucy, Clerk
Genoa Charter Township

Kevin Spicher, Supervisor
Genoa Charter Township